

CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: Bikes And Backstrokes

Other known title(s): 70003

OFLC ref: 1200453.000

Medium: Computer Moving Image File

Distributor: Not stated

Director: Not stated

Producer: Not stated

Country of origin: Not stated

Language: Unidentified language

Applicant: Secretary for Internal Affairs

Classification:	Objectionable.
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Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: None

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 12 July 2012

Date of direction to issue a label: No direction to issue a label has been issued

	Components	Running time
Feature(s):	Bikes And Backstrokes	33:59
Total running time:		33:59

Summary of reasons for decision:

The computer moving image file is deemed objectionable because it tends to promote and support the exploitation of children or young persons for sexual purposes.

The file contains commercially produced components from Eastern Europe which focus for most of the running time on naked young boys who are playing on the beach and swimming in the sea. Although the filmmaker claims the material has a naturist context, the lengthy focus of the camera on young boys' naked bodies reveals its sexual purpose. The material is intended for the titillation and arousal of those with a sexual interest in children or young people. The availability of the publication tends to create or reinforce this sexual interest and encourage exploitation.

The classification of this publication interferes with the right to freedom of expression set out in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention and is a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression. The classification reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to protect its young and vulnerable members from sexual exploitation.